I had an amazing high school experience. I went to a moderately small high school, there was just over a thousand kids in the whole school. Everyone knew everyone in the grade. Teachers knew most students. It was named North Andover High School and was the town’s public high school.

Academically, my school is the polar opposite of many of the schools described in Savage Inequalities. To start. The majority of the kids in my school came from supportive families. My dad worked and my mom stayed home. In the morning my mom would drive me to school so I did not have to wake up an hour early to catch the bus and then in the afternoon she would pick me up after what activity I had that day had ended. Many kids had the same living situation as me and few of us went home to an empty house hold. The majority of the parents who had children enrolled at North Andover were very involved. It would be fair to refer to some of these parents as helicopter parents. Each year the teachers would hold in an open house for parents in September, and each year it would be packed. Second, we had much more devoted teachers than the teachers portrayed in the book. The district held our teachers to a high standard but many would have been awesome teachers anyway. For the most part, they all loved their job, often putting in extra hours late at night grading papers or answering emails. My school, also unlike the book, had a large budget to purchase us new book, the newest technology and to support the teachers. The budget came mainly from town taxes that were very high, but my parents did not mind. They had moved to North Andover for the school system.

Outside of the classroom, we had many opportunities to improve ourselves and become well rounded people. Sports were a big part of the culture at North Andover High School. Our football team did extremely well. But again, the school had the resources to hire good coaches and invest in the equipment for the many different sport teams. There were clubs that you could join, often supervised by teachers who would volunteer their time. And student council would host fund raisers, usually dances on Friday night that were extremely popular.

Overall, I had a nearly perfect high school experience, thanks to my family, the school district and the teachers who cared so much.